

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend page 18, second full paragraph, of the specification as follows:

~~In-Referring back to FIG. 6, in~~ the case where bit flipping does not occur, the look ahead quantizer  $Q_{la}$  is fed from the output of adder  $A_10$ . Because there is no flip signal, this is identical to the delay input signal of the look ahead integrator  $I_{la0}$  (signal  $s0$ ). Hence  $Q_{la}$  is an advanced version of  $Q_0$  and exactly represents the next quantizer output. The additional multiplexer  $M_{la0}$  does not influence the loop since the output of adder  $A_10$  is deselected by the multiplexer  $M_10$ .